



## Florida House of Representatives

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**Johnnie Byrd**  
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### **HOUSE HOLDS SUMMIT ON HOMELAND SECURITY**

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida House of Representatives today held a Homeland Security Summit to highlight the improvements and assess the advancements we have made since September 11<sup>th</sup>, while analyzing how we can continue to make Florida safer.

“Providing safety for our citizens and protecting our cities, streets, and shores are the top priorities of government,” said Speaker Byrd. “While Florida is clearly leading the nation in security improvements and increased coordination since September 11<sup>th</sup>, there is still more work to be done.”

The House heard presentations from representatives of the Domestic Security Oversight Board, the regional domestic security task forces, the Florida Ports Council, the U.S. Coast Guard, fire departments, and the Department of Health.

These presentations updated House members on the progress of some of the homeland security initiatives implemented since September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Over the past few years, Florida has increased the level of coordination and cooperation between federal, state, and local governments and security departments, becoming one of the first states to develop a comprehensive homeland security strategy. The state has ensured our first responders are better equipped and trained.

Exhibiting the House’s commitment to improving homeland security, Speaker Byrd announced last week security spending in the House budget amounting to a \$75 million to fund specific homeland security and military preparedness infrastructure.

The House budget also provides significant funding to improve the Florida National Guard and give our troops the support they need.

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